

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-88515-7 - Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure - Second Edition

Edited by Mark Irving Lichbach and Alan S. Zuckerman

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Comparative Politics

Second Edition

Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure is the completely revised second edition of the volume that guided thousands of scholars through the intellectual demands and gratifications of comparative political science. Retaining a focus on the field's research schools, it now pays parallel attention to the pragmatics of causal research. Mark Irving Lichbach begins with a review of discovery, explanation, and evidence, and Alan S. Zuckerman argues for explanations with social mechanisms. Ira Katznelson, writing on structuralist analyses, Margaret Levi on rational choice theory, and Marc Howard Ross on culturalist analyses, assess developments in the field's research schools. Subsequent chapters explore the relationship among the paradigms and current research: Joel S. Migdal examines the state; Mark Blyth adds culturalist themes to work on political economy; Etel Solingen locates the international context of comparative politics; Doug McAdam, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly address contentious politics; Robert Huckfeldt explores multilevel analyses; Christopher J. Anderson describes nested voters; Jonathan Rodden examines endogenous institutions; Isabela Mares studies welfare states, and Kanchan Chandra proposes a causal account of ethnic politics. The volume offers a rigorous and exciting assessment of the past decade of scholarship in comparative politics.

Mark Irving Lichbach is Professor and Chair of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland. A theorist interested in social choice and a comparativist interested in globalization, Lichbach explores the connections between collective action theories and political conflict as well as the connections between collective choice theories and democratic institutions. He is the author or editor of many books, including the award-winning *The Rebel's Dilemma*, and of numerous articles that have appeared in scholarly journals in political science, economics, and sociology.

Alan S. Zuckerman is Professor of Political Science at Brown University. His most recent books are *Partisan Families: The Social Logic of Bounded Partisanship in Germany and Britain* (with Josip Dasović and Jennifer Fitzgerald), the winner of the International Society of Political Psychology's award for the best book published in 2007, and *The Social Logic of Politics: Personal Networks as Contexts for Political Behavior* (2005). Zuckerman edits the book series on *The Social Logic of Politics* for Temple University Press. During the spring semester 2007, he was the Lady Davis Visiting Professor of Political Science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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RATIONALITY, CULTURE,
AND STRUCTURE

SECOND EDITION

Edited by

MARK IRVING LICHBACH

University of Maryland

ALAN S. ZUCKERMAN

Brown University



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*For
Faye
and Ricki,
again and always*

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Communication; and *Political Disagreement*, as well as a series of articles concerned with the relationships among groups and individuals in politics.

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bargaining strategies and on employment outcomes in advanced industrialized societies. She is currently completing a new book examining the relationship between inequality and social spending in developing countries.

Doug McAdam is Professor of Sociology at Stanford University. He is the author or coauthor of eight books and more than 60 articles in the area of political sociology, with a special emphasis on the study of social movements and revolutions. His best known works include *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930–1970*; *Freedom Summer*; and *Dynamics of Contention* (with Sid Tarrow and Charles Tilly). He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003.

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Marc Howard Ross was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and Northwestern University and is William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of Political Science at Bryn Mawr College, where he has taught since 1968. He has done research in Canada, East Africa, France, Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and most recently in Spain and South Africa. His current work has two major themes: (1) the role that cultural performance and memory play in the escalation and de-escalation of ethnic conflict and (2) social science theories of conflict and their implications for conflict management. He has written or edited eight books, including *Cultural Contestation in Ethnic Conflict* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), *Culture and Belonging: Symbolic Landscapes and Contested Identities in Divided Societies* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009), *The*

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Culture of Conflict, and *The Management of Conflict* (Yale University Press, 1993), and more than 75 articles that have appeared in academic journals and books.

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Alan S. Zuckerman is Professor of Political Science at Brown University. His most recent books are *Partisan Families: The Social Logic of Bounded Partisanship in Germany and Britain* (with Josip Dasović and Jennifer Fitzgerald), the winner of the International Society of Political Psychology's award for the best book published in 2007, and *The Social Logic of Politics: Personal Networks as Contexts for Political Behavior* (2005). Zuckerman edits the book series on *The Social Logic of Politics* for Temple University Press. During the spring semester 2007, he was the Lady Davis Visiting Professor of Political Science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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Preface and Acknowledgments

Who now reads Max Weber? Seventy years ago, Talcott Parsons began his magisterial study of social thought by asking Crane Brinton's question about Herbert Spencer. Parsons demonstrated that by the end of the first third of the twentieth century, Weber's, Durkheim's, Pareto's, and Marshall's scholarship had eclipsed Spencer's social science and of the four theorists, Weber deserved pride of place. Has knowledge of Weber's social science among the current generation of students and professors of comparative politics mimicked the earlier abandonment of Spencer's social analysis?

When the senior comparativists in this volume attended graduate school, they studied Max Weber. From him, they learned about theories of regime types and transformation, economic development, bureaucracies, rationality, religion and politics, philosophy of social science, the tension between formal government and democratic processes, and a deep critique of modernity and of Marxist theory, among a host of basic matters. Most important, they developed an appreciation for grand questions of politics encased in theory and method.

Today, graduate studies in comparative politics more closely resemble professional training than library reading. Highlighting methods, students are taught that the best work combines fieldwork, interviews, surveys, archival work, experiments, and statistics, as well as formal models. Explaining substantive puzzles with causal arguments buttressed by extensive methods occupies the field's center. Successful scholarship displays the best techniques of analysis.

Weber understood that there is no opposition between mastering methods and social, economic, and political analysis. Moreover, he taught that scholarship demands examination of important questions, offering theoretically informed causal stories as well as applying the most appropriate methods. And so, following Weber, we have organized this volume around the interaction between paradigms – approaches to ontology, theory, and methods – and the pragmatics of causal analysis.

In this second edition of our volume, our colleagues and we interpret the state of comparative politics today, more than a decade after the first volume. The field has changed, and so the essays analyzing it have changed too.

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Another reason to offer a second edition is to update the service provided to young scholars of comparative politics across the globe. The volume serves as a survey and analysis of the field, and apparently, cohorts of graduate students have read and benefited from the essays in the first edition. We want to thank them for being attentive readers and to thank their teachers who thought that the volume would benefit their students. We hope that the second edition plays the same helpful role in the lives of many other graduate students in political science.

One of the gifts of publishing is the opportunity to express public and formal appreciation to people who offer assistance. It is a pleasure to thank Lew Bateman, our editor at Cambridge University Press, a persistent and wise guide, and our colleague Margaret Levi, who also leads (as well as edits) the Press's series on comparative politics, in which the first and this edition of the book appear. It is an honor to be in such impressive company. Thanks too to the Rockefeller Foundation for sponsoring a meeting at the Bellagio Conference and Study Center in October 2006. Conversations and exchanges of views at their superlative site initiated the work of this second edition. In addition, we offer our gratitude to several authors of the chapters – Margaret Levi, Ira Katznelson, Marc Ross, and Sidney Tarrow – for wise counsel as the project has unfolded.